

BURTON LATIMER
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health,

For the Year 1944.



Urban District of Burton Latimer.

Members of the Public Health Committee :

Councillors : A. G. Miller, J.P., C.C. (*Chairman*), A. Barlow
E. E. Clipson, R. J. Mackintosh, W. C. Meads, A. V. Morley, J.P.,
J. W. Patrick, B. W. Phillips, R. B. Pownall, O. Tailby.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN TERENCE MURPHY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds the appointments of Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Councils of Corby, Desborough, Rothwell, the Rural District Council of Kettering and Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer to the Northamptonshire County Council.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

G. C. BORMAN, Cert. R.S.I.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
75, LONDON ROAD,
KETTERING.

July, 1945.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BURTON LATIMER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District for 1944.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support and also to the Clerk, and to the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Borman, for his willing help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. T. MURPHY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944.

				1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Area (acres)	...	...	...	2756	2756	2756	2756	2756
Population (Registrar-General's estimate).	...	...	...	3753	4110	3849	3711	3827
Number of Live Births	...	...	...	40	55	60	83	75
Legitimate	...	...	...	39	55	57	74	70
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	3	9	5
Birthrate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	10.65	13.38	15.59	22.36	19.59
Number of Still Births	...	...	...	2	2	1	3	2
Legitimate	...	...	...	2	2	1	3	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	47.61	35.08	16.39	34.88	25.97
Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	0.53	0.48	0.20	0.80	0.52
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	46	30	36	50	46
Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)	...	...	...	12.25	7.29	9.35	13.47	12.00
Total Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	25.00	36.36	33.33	36.14	26.06
*Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2	3	2	3	4
*Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	2	3	1	2	3
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	6	5	6	5	4
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1	—	1	—	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years of age	...	...	...	—	—	1	—	—

* Registrar General's figures.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1944.

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population								Rate per 1,000 live births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid & Para- Typhoid Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diph- theria	Influenza	Diarr- hoea & Enteritis under 2 yrs	Total Deaths under 1 yr
England and Wales ...	17.6	0.50	11.6	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.12	4.8	46
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	20.3	0.64	13.7	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.10	7.3	52
148 Smaller Towns (estd. resident populations, 25,000—50,000). ...	20.9	0.61	12.4	0.00	—	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.11	4.4	44
London	15.0	0.42	15.7	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.08	10.1	61
BURTON LATIMER URBAN DISTRICT	19.59	0.52	12.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.06

The Maternal Mortality rates for England and Wales per 1,000 total births				Abortion			Puerperal		Others		Total	
				with sepsis	without sepsis	Abortion without sepsis	infections					
...				0.31	0.09	0.09	0.28		1.25		1.93	
"	"	Burton Latimer	"	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil		Nil		Nil	

SECTION A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (acres)	2,756
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population	3,827
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1944) according to Rate Books	1,150
Rateable Value	£17,232
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£64

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows :—
 Boot and shoe manufacture, Clothing manufacture, ironstone quarrying and farming.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

LIVE BIRTHS.	TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
Legitimate	70	33	37
Illegitimate	5	2	3
Totals	75	35	40

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... 19.59

STILL BIRTHS.	TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
	2	—	2

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 25.97

DEATHS.	TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
	46	26	20

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.00

Deaths from Puerperal causes :—

Puerperal Sepsis	nil
Other Puerperal Causes	nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ...	nil

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	26.06
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	14.02
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	200.00

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ...	nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	4

Deaths.—No comparability factor was issued for 1944 owing to the magnitude of local population changes and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths. Non-civilian deaths registered after 3rd September, 1939, are excluded.

Births.—The following table shows the birth rate for the year 1944 together with the rate for England and Wales.

LIVE BIRTH RATES 1944.

Burton Latimer	19.59
England and Wales	17.6

Infantile Mortality is the number of deaths in children under one year of age per 1,000 live births. This is an indication of the environmental and social conditions of a community with special reference to housing, overcrowding and maternity and child welfare.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES 1944.

Burton Latimer	26.06
England and Wales	46.0

The registered causes of death were as follows :—

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL
All Causes	26	20	46
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	2	1	3
7. Other forms of tuberculosis ...	1	—	1
8. Syphilitic diseases	—	—	—
9. Influenza	—	—	—
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and polio- encephalitis	—	—	—
12. Acute infantile encephalitis ...	—	—	—
13. Cancer	2	2	4
14. Diabetes	—	—	—
15. Heart disease	12	5	17
16. Intracranial vascular lesions ...	1	4	5
17. Other circulatory diseases ...	—	—	—
18. Bronchitis	2	2	4
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	2	1	3
20. Other respiratory diseases ...	—	—	—
21. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	1	—	1
22. Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	—	—	—

REGISTERED CAUSES OF DEATH—*continued*.

				MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
23.	Appendicitis	...	...	—	—	—
24.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	—	—	—
25.	Nephritis	...	...	1	—	1
26.	Puerperal Causes	...	...	—	—	—
27.	Premature Birth	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Congenital debility, malformation, and birth injury	...	...	1	—	1
29.	Suicide	...	...	—	1	1
30.	Road traffic accidents	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Other violent causes	...	...	—	1	1
32.	All other causes	...	...	1	3	4

SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services.

(a) Bacteriological examinations have been carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Northampton.

The following specimens have been examined :—

				1944.
Swabs	...	...	...	7
Blood	...	...	...	—
Faeces	...	...	...	3
Urine	...	...	...	—
Sputum	...	...	...	—

(b) **Ambulance facilities.**—Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance of the Joint Hospital Board. Non-infectious and accident cases are removed by the Burton Latimer ambulance under the administration of the John Ambulance Brigade.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**—The Burton Latimer Nursing Association which is affiliated to the County Nursing Association provides the services of a whole-time nurse. Details of the work carried out during 1944 are as follows :—

<i>General</i>	<i>Cases Nursed</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Midwifery</i>	<i>Maternity</i>	<i>Visits</i>
43	16	37	2423

(d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**—A County Council Welfare Clinic is held twice monthly. A Medical Officer attends one session each month.

The County Council is the Authority for the treatment of Tuberculosis and the Tuberculosis Officer attends weekly at the Health Clinic, Market Street, Kettering.

Orthopaedic cases attend the Manfield Orthopaedic Clinic at Kettering and persons suffering from Venereal Diseases are treated at the Kettering and District General Hospital every Thursday evening under the County Council scheme.

Under the Scabies Order, 1941, arrangement was made for the free treatment of cases and contacts with Benzyl Bensoate Emulsion, and most of the cases were treated at home.

The numbers requiring treatment were :—

1944 11 cases.

Diphtheria Immunisation : From 1941 free immunisation against diphtheria was offered to all children from 1-15 years of age.

The numbers immunised were as follows :—

	<i>Under 5 years.</i>	<i>Between 5 and 15 years.</i>	<i>Total</i>
1941	68	240	308
1942	73	173	246
1943	58	45	103
1944	57	7	64
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	256	465	721
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The percentage of children immunised up to December 31st, 1944 is :—

<i>Under 5 years.</i>	<i>Between 5 and 15 years.</i>
62%	81%

As children reach the age of fifteen years they are excluded from the percentage of immunised children.

SECTION C. & E. Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Water Supply.—The supply from the Council's well at Weekley began to fail during August 1943, and gradually decreased until it was yielding approx. 47,000 galls. a day in February 1944. The supply did not diminish further and began to return to the well in November.

Owing to the other commitments of the Gundle and Thrapston R.D.C. they were unable to supply as much as the Council needed during the drought, and it was necessary to obtain a limited additional supply from Kettering Corporation.

During the drought period the water was cut off at night in Burton Latimer and Weekley, from August 16th to September 21st.

The supply at Weekley returned to normal again at the end of December.

Periodical bacteriological examinations have been made of the supply during the year and the results have been satisfactory.

The water is chlorinated at Weekley before being pumped to the service reservoir at Warkton.

A chemical analysis was made in September. The analysis is :

	<i>Parts per</i> 100,000	<i>Grain.</i> <i>per gallon.</i>
Total solids (dried at 180° C.) ...	71.0	49.7
Combined chlorine (Cl) ...	6.70	4.69
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride ...	11.06	7.74
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates) ...	0.18	0.13
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrates) ...	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen ...	0.0004	0.0003
Albuminoid nitrogen ...	0.0024	0.0017
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27° C. ...	0.047	0.033
Lead or Copper ...	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equiv. to CaCo ₃) ...	32.5	22.8
Permanent hardness (equiv. to CaCo ₃) ...	14.0	9.8
Total Hardness :equiv. to CaCo ₃) ...	46.5	32.6

Owing to the great hardness of the water there is no plumbo-solvent action.

Approx. 90% of the population are supplied directly to the houses and 10% by stand-pipes.

Sewage Disposal.—The sewage disposal works are still badly overloaded and it has not yet been possible to connect up to the new Kettering Corporation Works, owing to the war.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.—Routine and other inspections were made during the year.

Three formal notices were issued, but in two of the cases all repairs called for had not been completed by the end of the year.

All other nuisances detected were satisfactorily abated without legal proceedings having to be taken.

Slaughterhouse.—All livestock are now killed at the Kettering abattoir.

Refuse Collection.—A Karrier Bantam Refuse Collector was purchased by the Council at the end of the year, to replace the horse and cart previously used.

The Council's tip is about one mile from the centre of the town and half a mile from the nearest house.

Milk and Dairies Order 1936.—Regular inspections have been made of the cowsheds and dairies.

Twenty seven samples of milk were submitted to the Methylene blue test, 17 were good, 8 moderate and two failed to pass the test. Four samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the phosphatase test and all the samples satisfied the test.

SECTION F. Infectious Diseases.

Smallpox.—No cases were reported.

Enteric Fever.—No cases were reported.

Scarlet Fever.—The disease was mild and no deaths occurred. One patient was removed to hospital.

Diphtheria.—No cases were reported.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—No cases were reported.

Erysipelas.—Two cases were reported ; both were nursed at home and recovered from the infection.

Dysentery.—One case of sonne dysentery was notified ; the patient was removed to hospital and recovered.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—One case was notified and was removed to hospital. The patient recovered from the infection.

Measles.—Five cases were reported. All were nursed at home and all recovered.

Whooping Cough.—Ten cases were reported. All were nursed at home and all recovered.

Pneumonia.—Fifteen cases of acute primary pneumonia were notified. All the patients were nursed at home and all recovered. There were three deaths ascribed to other forms of pneumonia.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. These regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade. No action was taken during 1944.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, and Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172. No action was taken under this section whereby an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis may be compulsorily removed to hospital.

Five cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year and two deaths occurred.

A table is shown giving the age and sex incidence of tuberculosis and of the deaths from the disease for 1944.

Tuberculosis After-Care : The Tuberculosis Care Committee which was reformed in 1941 continue to take an intensive interest in the welfare of the patients ; visits are made and grants of money are allowed in necessitous cases.

Government Evacuation Scheme : The number of evacuees received into the district during the year was 330 and 162 remained at the end of 1944.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1944.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including typhoid and paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Whooping Cough	3	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	10
Pneumonia	—	2	2	1	2	2	1	—	1	1	1	2	15
Totals	3	3	5	2	4	7	2	—	1	3	2	5	37

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1944.

Disease	-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-65	65 & Over	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Enteric Fever (including typhoid and paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Measles	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	2	1	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—
Pneumonia	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	3	3	—	—	3	15	—	—
Totals	4	3	3	4	4	5	2	—	4	4	4	—	4	37	3	—

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1944.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Respiratory.</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	2	—	—
15—	1	—	—	—
25—	1	1	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	3	—	—

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1944.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—
25—	1	—	—	—
35—	—	1	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	1	—	—

These figures, which are locally compiled, differ slightly from the Registrar-General's figures given in page 2.

